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Saudi's 'Barbie' princess makes shock UK asylum bid

LONDON (AFP) - A Saudi princess, the granddaughter of the nation's founder, is seeking asylum in Britain over fears she could be persecuted by members of her family at home, the Sunday Telegraph reported.

Princess Sara bint Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, also known as the "Barbie" princess due to her pampered upbringing, said she had also applied to Britain's Home Office for political asylum for her four daughters, according to the report.

The ministry said it would not comment on individual cases.

"With deep regret, and as I have been left with no other choice, I have written to the UK Home Office to indicate that I, and my children, wish to be granted political asylum," she said in a statement.

"My reputation has been besmirched in the media by a baseless and malicious smear campaign. For years I have endured all this in silence, while trying to resolve my situation with dignity through the normal channels, without fanfare or publicity."

The divorced princess currently lives in London after moving to Britain in 2007 following a falling-out with her 80-year-old father prince Talal bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud.

It is the first time such a claim has been made by a senior member of the ruling family. The princess' passport expired two years after arriving in Britain, and she is now facing deportation as her visa has also run out.

Britain has to decide if her claims are valid and risk sparking a diplomatic spat by accepting her request.

Bonaire-Aruba Trade Mission surpassed all expectations!



The large number of business owners who travelled from Bonaire to Aruba for the two-day commercial mission on Aruba surpassed all expectations of the organizers. ATIA President, Ronald van Trigt, indicated that it was obvious that there is a sizeable appetite from both Aruba and Bonaire to invest and to reach agreements for mutual business endeavors. That in itself, says van Trigt, is a sign of a good beginning.

Van Trigt went on to say that... "there is a great deal of interest in Bonaire on account of her special status. If we can achieve certain agreements between Bonaire and Aruba, we can utilize Bonaire as a hub to Europe."

The mission and vision of ATIA is to make Aruba a hub between the Latin American countries and Europe for those interested in doing business with Europe. But, we need to also explore some synergy with Bonaire to achieve that goal more efficiently and productively. ATIA is convinced that our local merchants were able to see the opportunities that Bonaire has to offer.

The Bonaire Chamber of Commerce and ATIA was pleased that the Trade Mission drew the attention of two Aruba



Ministers who were in attendance, as well as Dutch representative for the BES islands, President of the Aruba Parliament and two deputies of the Insular government of Bonaire.

The organization of the magna event was not possible without the support of PriceWaterhouseCoopers and C.A.T.C. Both have operations on Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire.



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Lions stalwarts, Lopez and Kuiperi earn special recognition

CARACAS -- During an international meeting of the regional clubs of the E-1 district in Caracas, Venezuela, held May 18 and 19, Aruba Lions Club was represented by club members Claret Lopez and Franky Kuiperi. Both Lopez and Kuiperi have been working many years for the benefit of the local community as Lion members. As recognition for their many years of valuable service, the E-1 Convention District decided to honor these two Lions Club members.

Lopez and Kuiperi were chosen from among 35 other Lion members who were nominated for the recognition by past governor German Ferreira. Ferreira chose 35 members out of the over 1000 members who comprise the E-1 District. The distinction they received was presented on behalf of the International President of the Lions Club in recognition for their exceptional work during the year 2010 - 2011. Aruba Lions Club received two of the 15 recognitions bestowed.

International Director, Carlos Valenca Valencia bestowed the distinction "Excellence



Award" on Franky Kuiperi as Zone Chairman of the E-1 District on behalf of President Sid Scruggs.

Claret Lopez received the "LCI President Excellence Award" for his work during 2010 -2011 when he served as local president. Lopez received his recognition from the hands of past international Director Fransisco Fabricio de Oliveira Neto. De Oliveira Neto is currently a candidate for the 2013-2014 post of International President for Lions Club International.

Aruba Lions Club congratulates their fellow Lions, Claret Lopez and Franky Kuiperi for their outstanding work during 2010-2011, and worthy recognition of excellence.



Tony A.D. Green www.people-self-development.com

Why not Urirama?..... 7 Clear cut reasons!

By any standard Aruba's apparent efforts to go green is very commendable. Much has been done in terms of the publicity of our green vision and noble intentions. I think, it is safe to say that the entire world is aware of Aruba's vision and intentions. Every world leader knows that Aruba is intent on creating a so-called green corridor and on significantly reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. However, what the world does not know is that we are far from crystallizing that vision, from taking those inevitable concrete steps to make a green Aruba a reality.

In my humble view, bringing TNO to Aruba may be an excellent step in the right direction, but it is not one of the inevitable concrete steps needed to realize the vision of a green island. Setting up solar panels on the beautifully renovated homes in San Nicolas is an excellent step in helping to reduce the electric bills of some of the people who most need that kind of helping hand. But, again, in my view, that is not one of the inevitable concrete steps needed to create a green Aruba. Nor is the establishment of a solar park on the parking lot of the Airport!

I. Basis: Master Plan

My research and extensive information on the subject matter convinces me that in order for Aruba to in fact and in reality go green, Aruba must first and foremost, after extensive research and consultation with true experts not interested in making a buck, design an elaborate, complete and thorough MASTER Plan for a

Green Aruba! Such a Master Plan must include every conceivable aspect relative to alternative energy: where we are today with respect to WEB N.V.'s operations, indebtedness, potential for alternative energy expansion and/or absorption, its manpower pool and future investment portfolio, and its current philosophy relative to alternative energy and fossil fuel management, what are the power needs of Aruba today, tomorrow and into the future, best practice scenario for alternative energy sources and applications, etc., etc. This Master Plan must do the very same for ELMAR N.V.

The most cardinal question that must be addressed relative to ELMAR is "after alternative energy what will be the way forward for ELMAR N.V.?" A Master Plan will delineate the answers to that question.

A Master Plan for a Green Aruba is the only foundation upon which the island can go forward intelligently and cost-effectively. Unquestionably, without such a plan, we are only spinning our tops in mud and will blunder, falter and cause financial havoc in the long run. We cannot help but compare the process with that of building a nice home.

Without an architect's detailed blueprint in which every beam, joist and supporting wall is meticulously measured for exact size and carrying capacity and a solid foundation is poured to pre-determined dimensions, you cannot build a sustainable house.

Likewise, we need first and foremost to sit down and draft

that Master Plan - that set of blueprints for a green Aruba. That Master Plan must contain all the necessary legislation, and I can imagine that this kind of endeavor would require a great deal of laws to make it work. These laws cannot be created as we go along, as appears to be the case right now. For the best kind of synergy those laws must be carefully designed as a composite and all-encompassing coverage of every aspect of every angle of the process, from idea to implementation to fruition.

II. Best Practice: Curacao:

We can take example from our sister island, Curacao. They have created an interesting slogan..."We don't talk green...we do green." While we are not acting on Aruba, we are steadily falling behind.

The only green we have thus far is the Wind Park at Vader Piet with a delivery of a mere 12% of electricity. By failing to have a Master Plan in which ELMAR N.V. is given a mandate to propose and/or advice on legislation to formally regulate the installation of solar panels, the government has the fiat to create their own philosophy and management against solar energy. And, as a result, ELMAR has no choice but to follow suit and concur with the government! It is simply unexplainable that for an island with the very best production of free sun for 11 hours per day 7 days per week for almost 365 days per year that there are practically no solar panel installations anywhere!

Continued on page 4

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Esther Baars appointed new General Lawyer at Public Judicial Ministry

ORANJESTAD -- The Public Judicial Ministry of Aruba as of August 1st will have a brand new General Lawyer in the person of Esther Baars. Mrs. Baars was recently approved by the Council of Ministers upon nomination by the Public Judicial Ministry for the position. Esther Baars replaces Taco Stein who has just stepped down as General Lawyer.

Baars comes to us from the Public Judicial Ministry in Rotterdam, where she served as Senior Quality Officer, Criminal Investigation and Prosecution. She was engaged in various factions and held different portfolios in the Public Judicial Ministry in Holland.

The Public Judicial Ministry is also informing the public that as of this month Iduna Streefland-Brink has been appointed the new Fiscal Lawyer. On Thursday she

was sworn in by the Governor of Aruba and on Friday had her very first case.

Streefland-Brink is replacing Lars Stempher who recently returned to Holland. Mrs. Streefland-Brink previously worked in the Public Judicial Ministry in The Hague. She also held various important positions in justice. For example, she represented, among others, the Dutch Minister of Justice in the Caribbean Financial Task Force on Money Laundering (1998-2004).

What's more, the Public Judicial Ministry informs that the contract of Peter Blanken has been extended for another year. Mr. Blanken will remain as Fiscal Lawyer for Aruba until November 2013.

A hearty welcome was extended to the new additions to Aruba's Public Judicial Ministry.

Christmas Town Expo to take place at Renaissance Convention center first weekend in November

Organizers of a diverse and spectacular weekend expo planned for the weekend of November 2, 3 & 4 announced they are now accepting subscribers to the 85 booths they have planned at Christmas Town 2012 at the Renaissance Convention Center in Oranjestad.

Julie Merencia, Ron Martes and Arneldo Maduro of the well known band Youth Extreme invite any vendors of any product related to holiday time to contact them about joining the expo. "We believe this will be the most comprehensive display of products and services related to end of the year celebrations, travel and gift giving the island has ever seen," commented P/R Manager Bettina Daal. "There will be fashion shows of holiday outfits throughout the days, restaurants, home décor, a section for those displaying original handicrafts and special holiday vacation packages for families who like to travel during the school break; you name



Christmastown Organizers

it, and it will be found at Christmas Town."

Principal sponsor already on board is Balashi Brewery, participating with booths featuring Grey Goose Vodka, Dewars, Bacardi Rum and Aruban-brewed Balashi Chill. Another sponsor who has already signed on is Tiara Airlines Aruba, which is supplying the door prizes for visitors to the expo. Attendees can win one of three prizes; tickets for 4 to Caracas, round trip airfare for

2 to Bonaire, or the grand prize, 2 tickets to Fort Lauderdale, during the drawing on the final day of the expo.

Organizers report they will have a VIP soiree on September 21 for those who have signed up to display at Christmas Town to fill them in on the media promotion. Booths can be reserved by calling 743-7414 or visit their Facebook page for more information.

by Rosalie Klein

Why not Urirama?.....7 Clear cut reasons!

Continued from page 2

And, what's more, we are currently defending, tooth and nail, the project for placing more wind turbines and not solar panels. The focus appears to be on the wind and not the sun despite all the already researched and declared adverse effects for wind turbines.

In Curacao they already have practical legislation in place, also for the business world. This obviously will contribute to Curacao becoming greener much sooner and will boost their economy. Apparently, WEB N.V. does not want a second wind park, but has no choice but to follow the government's lead. Urirama is estimated to cost Aruba somewhere close to \$140 million dollars for 10% extra wind energy. Vader Piet is currently producing 12% of the energy needed. WEB may refuse 25% of the Urirama energy if this is not in balance with their energy balance. If this is the case, then we are looking at an energy production of no more than 10% from Urirama. Together with Vader Piet we can think of a maximum of 22% and not 40% as is being promoted. This will then translate into almost no reduction at WEB of the Co2 output! At the moment Curacao is way ahead of Aruba and by December they will jump ahead another 20%.

III. before Petro China or Whoever:

To my surprise, what nobody is talking about is what I perceive to be a major irony.

We are working diligently to introduce alternative energy and to make Aruba a green island without giving any consideration to the oil refinery. The oil refinery as it stands today is miles away from any semblance of green. The dreadfully harmful emissions from the oil refinery permeate the atmosphere practically on a daily basis covering almost the entire San Nicolas airspace kietenbos area where some of the smoke heads out to sea. In none of the discussions regarding the sale/take-over/ of Valero have I heard any discussion regarding remedying the pollution factor of the refinery. Hence, in one breath we are about to doll out more millions of dollars than have already been spent on wind turbines and on creating a green corridor all in an effort to reduce Co2 and to create a healthy clean environment for our citizens. And, on the other hand, we are working overtime to save the ever polluting refinery.

Please don't misunderstand me, and don't accuse me of not wanting to save Valero. Absolutely not, I too want to save



those many jobs of fellow citizens who depend on Valero for their livelihood. I also recognize that we cannot blame Valero for operating as they do. They are operating within the confines of the complete absence of environmental legislation. Save Valero by all means, but at the same, begin now to enact strict legislation to protect the environment and include this in your deliberations and bargaining for the next operator of Valero. The vision for a green Aruba must be consistent and all-inclusive, if not we are completely "verkeerd bezig" as we say in Dutch, meaning, truly acting inappropriately.

IV. Beseeking Reconsideration:

As we review the concrete reasons for not proceeding with a second wind park at Urirama, the reasons begin to stack up high. In a nutshell here they are:

1. In the absence of an Energy Master Plan for Aruba it simply cannot be justified

2. In the absence of a viable, independent, objective, professional evaluation of the health implications of wind turbines in a populated area, makes it irresponsible to proceed

ceed

3. To simply ignore the peaceful, objective and well-founded objection of the people is non-democratic, legally risky and dumb founded of intelligent leaders

4. To ignore the myriad of advice and counsel from Dutch and American expertise is simply irresponsible

5. The inability to truly justify the exuberant financial cost of such a product against what it will produce (10%) does not warrant continuing with it at any location

6. To press forward with the project, as if unwitting, in the face of the high risk of jeopardizing our indispensable tourism industry is downright stupidity

7. To ignore the historic, spiritual implications, scenic value and environmental consequences of building unsightly noise producing towers in such an area is totally irresponsible.

Hence, I can conclude that the Aruban community, certainly those in the know who are not politically motivated or have political agendas and who only want to very best for the island, hereby beseeches the decision makers to seriously weigh all the evidence carefully and objectively and to concur that a wind turbines park at Urirama appears to not be a good idea for Aruba. We want alternative energy, by all means, but it must not be at the expense of everything we deem precious on Aruba!

If this was helpful, I would love to hear from you: tony-green.morningnews@hotmail.com.



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Doron and Maureen Feder honored at the Marriott Vacation Club



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple, who are loyal visitors of Aruba, as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees are Mr. Doron and Mrs. Maureen Feder from Montgomery NY, USA. The ceremony took at their home away from home, the Marriott Vacation Ocean Club. This symbolic honorary title was presented to them in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation for their more than 10 consecutive visit to our island. According to the Feders they love the Island very much, because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants and the comfort and familiarity of the Island specially the unhurried life style. The certificate was presented to them by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Gail Sahit and Mr. Joseph Goldbourne from the Marriott Vacation Club.

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Opportunity to submit proposals for 2013 Royal decorations

ORANJESTAD -- Just like in previous years, again in 2013, on the occasion of Queen's Birthday in April 2013, there will be the opportunity to submit propositions for citizens to receive a Royal decoration from the Queen.

For someone to be considered to receive such a royal decoration the primary accent must be on distinctive contribution in particular to the community and especially in the realm of voluntary work for which the person did not receive payment or a salary. Contribution made where the person was paid can be considered if the caliber of the person's performance was of such an exceptional nature that it had added value for the economic development of Aruba.

Royal decorations are attended to in Holland by the organization, "Nederlandse Kapittel voor de Civiele Orden." Anyone or organization who knows someone whom they consider deserves a royal decoration can submit a proposition. Said proposition must be submitted by means of the Decoratie Commissie Aruba and must be submitted in a sealed envelope to the Bu-

reau of the Prime Minister of Aruba to the attention of the Decoratie Commissie Aruba, Bestuurskantoor, L.G. Smith Boulevard 76, Oranjestad, Aruba.

The last day to submit the proposition for a royal decoration for the year 2013 is Wednesday August 22, 2012. To make the proposition, two special forms are required to be filled out. These forms can be picked up at the counter of the entrance of City Hall in Oranjestad or from one of the members of the Decoratie Commissie Aruba. The forms are also available online by requesting same at: decoratieciaruba@gmail.com.

The forms must be completely filled out in detail, and every instance mentioned must sign the proposition with an original signature.

Points to bear in mind when filling out a proposition:

1. Fill out both forms completely and in detail
2. Remember to describe separately and in detail every job/special activity that the person as engaged in and the exact dates during the time of their involvement
3. If the activity in which the person was engaged was



The decoration for 'Knight in the Order of Oranje Nassau.'

part of an organization, describe the organization, its mission and goal, its value for Aruba, its size, etc, and which function the person occupied in the organization.

4. Indicate how much time the person dedicates to the activity in question (hours per week, per month, per year)

5. Explain in full detail the special activity in which the person is involved, considering whether it is an individual activity or collective, the level of responsibility and professionalism of the person, the influence and value that it has for the local Aruban community

and internationally, the good example of the performance of the person to others.

1. Mention must be made of any payment the person may have received for work done and how much compensation was received.

2. mention must be made of all additional information considered relevant to show that the person in question is worthy of the royal distinction

3. In the event the person in question is employed, the employer must submit a declaration mentioning that they have no objection for the person to receive the distinction. The declaration must indicate the name, address and telephone number of the employer should the members of the Commission would like to contact the employer.

4. Of crucial importance is how strongly the proposition is motivated to convince the Commission that the person in question indeed is worthy of the distinction. Motivating your proposal of the person in question can be done by filling out the "Toelichting" section of the form where mention is made of "Activity." This information may also be filled out

on a separate paper mentioning the name of the activity it relates to.

5. To be able to measure the merits of the person being proposed for a royal decoration, it is of utmost importance to provide all relevant information requested and to mention all dates and information that would confirm or authenticate the work of the person in question.

Please note that incomplete propositions or those submitted late will not be attended to.

The "Nederlandse Kapittel voor de Civiele Orden" will only handle completely filled out forms and those submitted on time. The Aruba Decoration Committee is always pleased when a number of our citizens are propositioned for the royal distinction to be bestowed on them each year during Queen's Birthday celebrations. Again this year 2013 they expect to receive many propositions for many worthy Aruban citizens.

For questions or other information, please feel free to contact the President of the Aruba Decoration Commission, Mrs. J.I. (Yvonne Spellen) at Telephone 587-7772 or via email at decoratieciaruba@gmail.com.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

Southern Russia reels from floods as toll climbs to 171



KRYMSK (AFP) - Russia on Sunday scrambled to deal with the aftermath of devastating flash floods that killed at least 171 people and swept away homes in the southern Krasnodar region's worst natural disaster in recent history.

Russian President Vladimir Putin demanded that officials explain the massive death toll and personally inspected the worst-hit areas Saturday evening, the first major disaster since he came back to the Kremlin for a third term in May.

The Russian strongman compared the force of the water -- which trapped people in their homes at night, ripped up pavements and traffic lights and flooded rail tracks -- to a "tsunami" and said that the top investigator would conduct a probe to see "who acted how."

He also quickly moved to address speculation that the deluge was caused by an emergency opening of sluice gates at a local reservoir, with the Kremlin issuing a statement that Putin had been told it was not the cause of the flooding.

The worst hit area was a district around Krymsk, a town of around 57,000 where rescue teams have found 140 bodies including several children, investigators said.

Most of the victims were pensioners, many caught by the floods in their sleep.

Krymsk is about 200 kilometres (120 miles) northwest of the Black Sea resort of Sochi where Russia will host the 2014 Winter Olympic Games.

Flash floods frequently batter towns along the picturesque Black Sea coast during seasonal rains in the Caucasus mountains, but authorities say the current disaster is unprecedented.

Officials have been unable to explain the massive death toll, saying only the floods were caused by torrential rains over the past few days and caught many people unawares.

The force of the water was so ferocious that many residents said they suspected the floods were a man-made disaster caused by a release of water at a local reservoir on the Neberdzhai River.

Putin said survivors would get new homes while families of victims would receive two million rubles (\$60,800) each.

Ten injured as gunman opens fire at French disco



BETRY (AFP) - An armed man opened fire early Sunday after being ordered out of a nightclub in northern France, injuring 10, a week after a similar incident in the area claimed two lives, officials said.

Special operations police arrested the suspect, who had fired several rounds with a hunting rifle after being asked to leave the discotheque in the town of Betry near the main northern city of Lille, where the deadly shooting took place last Sunday.

The man, in his thirties, fired at the door, a local official, Etienne Stock, told reporters, adding that he had had earlier brushes with the law.

The suspect was kicked out

"after getting into a dispute with his brother-in-law over a bottle," and then got a gun and fired, said Herve Legrand, a bouncer at the discotheque Le Vamos, speaking in hospital.

Officials and medical sources said the 10 victims suffered light injuries.

The incident came exactly a week after a gunman shot dead two people at a nightclub in Lille, in an apparent revenge attack after he was kicked out of the establishment.

A cloakroom attendant and a 27-year-old customer were killed and another six people including the club bouncer were injured in that attack. A suspect and an accomplice were arrested in Spain on Friday.



PAMPLONA (AFP) -- A huge, fighting bull that broke away from the pack caused havoc Sunday at Spain's Pamplona bull run, which left two people in hospital. The 640-kilogramme (1,430-pound) beast, Navajito, sped ahead of a pack of six bulls charging through the northern city, where daredevils dressed in white with red neck scarves fought for space to escape the horns. Two Spanish men were injured in the run: one 29-year-old suffered cuts and bruises to his face and a 35-year-old badly bruised his back, the regional Navarra government said. At the outset, the bulls burst out of the holding pen and thundered down Pamplona's narrow, cobbled streets. As the beast tried to swerve into one corner, it smashed against runners huddling along the side of the wall.



MEXICO CITY - Tens of thousands of demonstrators marched through Mexico City Saturday against the presidential election win of Enrique Pena Nieto, accusing him and his party of widespread vote-buying. Mexico's independent election authority on Friday ratified Pena Nieto's victory in the July 1 vote. But many in this country of 112 million have refused to accept Pena Nieto's victory

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Forecasters: Sunshine 'unlikely' for London Olympics

LONDON (AFP) - Sunny weather in London is "very unlikely" during the Olympic Games which begin later this month, forecasters said after the wettest June on record in Britain.

Britain's Met Office predicted slightly better conditions for the month ahead than in recent weeks when torrential rains triggered severe flooding in parts of the country.

But forecasters said "below average sunshine" and temperatures are expected during the London 2012 Games which run from July 27 to August 12.

"Climatologically this is the warmest part of the year, but this year a protracted spell of hot, sunny weather

looks very unlikely," the Met Office said in its 30-day outlook.

"In fact the inclement weather that has characterised June and early July will probably still be in evidence, although overall conditions are unlikely to be as bad."

Very wet conditions in southern England were more probable than dry ones, the Met Office warned, while stressing that the outlook for rainfall remained "extremely uncertain".

The forecast comes as heavy rains continue to hit large swathes of Britain where authorities issued more than 150 flood alerts and warnings yesterday.

A man in his early 20s was

killed in Northumberland, in northeast England, on Saturday after his car crashed on a rain-drenched road.

Meanwhile at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone 25,000 spectators were told to go home on Saturday because of flooded carparks.

Britain experienced double the average amount of rainfall last month, making it the wettest June since records began in 1910, the Met Office said. The period from April to June was also the wettest recorded.

Celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II's diamond jubilee were marred by the inclement weather in early June but millions of Britons turned out regardless to mark her 60 years on the throne.



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McCain slams 'shameful' US inaction on Syria

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Senator John McCain yesterday accused President Barack Obama and his administration of leading a "shameful and disgraceful" US response to the carnage in Syria.

"The fact is, the United States has played no leadership role," the influential senator and former Republican presidential candidate told CBS television, referring to efforts to halt the brutal 16-month crack-down.

"Now 14,000 people have been massacred by Bashar al-Assad. The United States of America, its performance so far has been shameful and disgraceful."

McCain, a decorated Vietnam War veteran and a leading voice in Congress on military and security matters, has argued for months that Washington should deliver weapons to aid rebel forces in Syria seeking to oust Assad.

Obama has demanded that Assad stand down and offered logistical support to the opposition, but his administration - which is seeking to wind down a decade of war in Afghanistan after ending the

controversial Iraq mission -- has ruled out using force in Syria.

International efforts to squeeze by isolating Assad and seeking sanctions against his regime have been frustrated by Russian and Chinese opposition at the UN Security Council.

"It is shameful, the total lack of leadership that the United States has displayed for the last 14 months," McCain said. "The president of the United States should be speaking out for the people of Syria."

McCain renewed his call for military aid as former UN secretary general Kofi Annan, an international envoy on the Syria crisis, conceded yesterday that his efforts so far have failed to end nearly 16 months of bloodshed.

"We should get arms to them so that we can balance the forces," he said. "It is not a fair fight. Russian arms are pouring in, Iranians are on the ground, and people are being massacred, tortured, raped, and murdered as a matter of policy by Bashar al-Assad."

Annan in Syria hoping to save peace plan



DAMASCUS (AFP) - Syria's Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal al-Miqdad (R) yesterday welcomed UN-Arab League envoy Kofi Annan in Damascus. Annan arrived Damascus after the international envoy's admission that his peace plan has so far failed to end nearly

16 months of carnage in Syria.

"The Joint Special Envoy for Syria, Kofi Annan, arrived in Damascus this evening for talks with President Bashar Al-Assad," Ahmad Fawzi said of Annan's third trip to Syria since the outbreak of the conflict.

Health & Living

Killer disease in Cambodia stumps experts

PHNOM PENH (AFP) - It's not bird flu or SARS, and nor does it appear to be contagious, but little more is known about a mysterious disease that has killed dozens of Cambodian children, some within 24 hours of being hospitalised.

Medical experts are scrambling to respond to what the Cambodian health ministry and World Health Organization (WHO) have labelled an "undiagnosed syndrome" that has claimed the lives of at least 56 boys and girls, mostly toddlers, since April.

The WHO has put neighbouring countries on alert about the killer disease, that starts with a high fever and is followed by respiratory and neurologic symptoms "with rapid deterioration of respiratory functions".

There have been no cases reported outside Cambodia so far.

Paediatrician Beat Richner, the founder of Kantha Bopha children's hospitals, which see around 85 percent of Cambodia's severely ill youngsters who make it to treatment, was the first to raise the alert over the illness.

The Swiss doctor, who told Cambodian health officials about the illness last month, gave a higher toll than the

WHO, saying 64 children had died from the disease since mid-April, while two more had recovered.

"All these children have encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) and in the later hours of their life they develop a severe pneumonia with a destruction of the alveoli in the lungs. That is the reason they die," he said.

The alveoli, or air sacs, are pockets in the lungs where the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide takes place.

"We think it's either a virus, an intoxication, or both," Richner said.

While it is impossible to rule out contagion at this early stage, Richner said he had yet to come across two cases in the same family, and no health workers appear to have fallen ill after caring for the patients.

Like the WHO and the health ministry, Richner's staff are racing to find the cause of the disease, sending blood and tissue samples to the Institut Pasteur -- a renowned infectious disease research centre.

Early results from a selection of those samples show some of the children had been infected by a lethal strain of hand, foot and mouth disease, although Richner said more analysis was needed.

Transgender romance movie a hit in Bangladesh



DHAKA (AFP) - A film about a love affair between a transgender person and a Hindu boy has become a surprise hit in Bangladesh, with distributors saying on Sunday that it would now be given a general release.

"Common Gender", Bangladesh's first film dealing with transgender people, often known as hijras, opened in just six cinemas two weeks ago but full houses have encouraged cinema owners to extend its run and screen it

nationwide.

In the movie, Sushmita, a hijra, falls in love with a Hindu boy but the boy's parents refuse to accept Sushmita, eventually leading to her suicide.

Across South Asia, hijra communities of transvestites, eunuchs and asexual people are among the most marginalised groups in traditionally conservative societies.

Director Noman Robin said he made the film after he saw a transgender person attacked for using a female toilet at a shopping mall.

"The hijra was beaten in front of hundreds of people," he said.

Last October more than 1,000 hijras rallied in Dhaka for a government-sponsored demonstration to raise awareness of their rights.



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Clinton in plea for rights of Afghan women



TOKYO (AFP) - US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made a powerful plea Sunday for the rights of women in Afghanistan, using a global forum to insist that they must be part of the country's future growth.

"The United States believes strongly that no nation can achieve peace, stability and economic growth if half the population is not empowered," she told the Tokyo conference on Afghanistan.

Clinton said the way forward "must include fighting corruption, improving governance, strengthening the rule of law (and providing) access to economic opportunity for all Afghans, especially for women".

Top diplomat Clinton was addressing a world conference aiming to chart a way forward for the nation after NATO combat troops withdraw in 2014.

The talks have already

raised pledges of \$16 billion in civilian aid for the conflict-torn nation over the next four years.

Washington says significant progress has been made on women's rights since the US-led invasion of 2001 toppled the Taliban, with the number of girls attending schools soaring and more women gaining employment.

According to figures provided by the US State Department, out of the eight million students enrolled in schools today, nearly 40 percent are girls. That contrasts sharply with 2002 when there were only 900,000 children in schools, virtually none of them girls.

The US says there are now 175,000 teachers in Afghanistan, about a third of them women, thanks to \$316 million spent on education initiatives.

US officials said Clinton

had raised the issue of women's rights with Afghan President Hamid Karzai during her brief visit to Kabul on Saturday, warning that they were a litmus test for the country's progress.

Many fear the recent gains for women are now under threat as NATO troops leave and Kabul seeks peace with Islamist insurgents.

In March Karzai endorsed an edict by the country's highest Islamic authority which stated women were worth less than men and should avoid mixing with men.

There have also been a number of reported mysterious incidents of girl students being taken to hospitals across Afghanistan after falling ill from suspected gas attacks or water poisoning.

A senior US official told reporters there was a fear that women's rights may be at risk, and countries at the Tokyo conference wanted to ensure the final document "was as strong as possible on women's issues".

"I certainly think in areas where insurgents are, you see women's rights being rolled back," he said, asking to remain anonymous.

He added that in the closing sessions of Sunday's meetings, Afghan ministers had said the message on women's rights "had been heard".

Sci-Tech

US heat wave eases, relief in sight



WASHINGTON (AFP) — A scorching heatwave searing the United States was expected to begin to ease slightly yesterday, but authorities warned that temperatures will still remain high and dangerous through most this week.

The heatwave was responsible for at least 36 weather-related deaths in various parts of the country, The New York Times reported.

Temperatures as high as 99 degrees Fahrenheit (37.2 Celsius) were forecast for the Washington metropolitan area for Sunday, a notch cooler than the 105 degrees (40.5 Celsius) recorded on Saturday, but still very hot and dangerous, especially for the elderly and people with heart conditions.

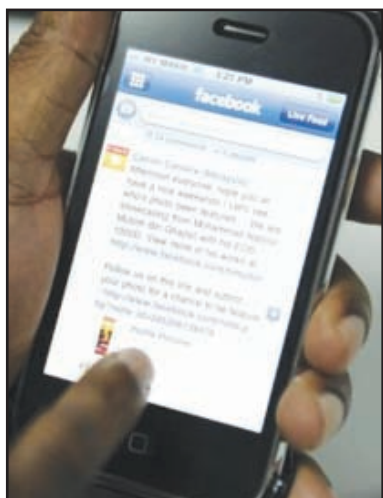
However, blistering temper-

atures were expected to cool "significantly" by today as a cold front pushed south from Canada to the central and eastern United States, the National Weather Service said.

The breather will likely be accompanied by fierce storms, forecasters warned, possibly spelling disaster for states still recovering from a killer band of thunderstorms that wreaked havoc last week, leaving millions without air conditioning or refrigeration after power cuts.

Meteorologists blame the sweltering weather on a huge heat dome over large swathes of the country. High-pressure air in the domes blocks cooling winds, setting hot temperatures, higher humidity and very little breeze underneath.

Facebook plans mobile ads based on app use: report



CALIFORNIA (AFP) - Social networking giant Facebook plans to engage in a new type of mobile advertising based on the apps used by consumers, The Wall Street Journal reported Saturday on its website.

The social network, which has 900 million users, would use its Facebook Connect feature -- which lets millions log into applications using their Facebook ID and password -- to track consumers' apps, and tailor ads accordingly, it said.

Facebook -- which is based in Menlo Park, California -- may also attempt to track how people use the apps, but a final decision has not been made, the newspaper said, quoting unnamed sources familiar with the company's plans.

The plan is likely to stoke privacy fears, as the initiative would go further than current mobile-ad networks, which track ads viewed by consumers on their mobile phone's web browser, the report said.

One of the biggest challenges Facebook must confront is its difficulties in generating revenues from smartphones, with more and more users accessing the social networks from mobile devices.

That factor led analysts to downgrade their forecasts for the group before its stock market debut in May, which ended up being less than a success.

At that time, Facebook shares were offered at \$38. Shares closed Friday at \$31.73.

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Nigeria oil spill caused by sabotage, ENI says

ROMA (AFP) - Italian oil giant ENI said Sunday that "an act of sabotage" has caused a spill at one of its pipelines in Nigeria's Bayelsa state, as local leaders condemned the company for not reacting swiftly.

Oil theft is a worsening problem in Africa's top producer, where thieves often blast into pipelines in the Niger Delta region and then siphon off the crude to sell on the black market.

"Due to an act of sabotage yesterday night, there has been a spill along the flowline between Nembe and Obama," an ENI spokesman, who did not want to be named, told AFP in Rome.

The spill has impacted some waterways and farms, authorities from the affected Nembe kingdom said in a statement, which also criticised "multi-nationals" for using "delay tactics" after spills.

"They allow the oil spill to spread to rivers and mangrove forests before coming for inspection and clean-ups," said the statement from Nengi James, Chairman of the Oil and Gas Committee of Nembe Kingdom.

The UN released a report last year saying decades of oil spills in Nigeria may require the biggest cleanup ever undertaken, with communities dependent upon farmers and fishermen left ravaged.

Pipeline sabotage aimed at stealing crude has been the major cause of recent onland spills.

Taiwan's HTC second quarter profit falls 58%



(AFP) - Taiwan's top smartphone maker HTC said net profit in the three months to June fell 58 percent from a year earlier due to slowing global demand.

Net profit in the second quarter came in at Tw\$7.4 billion (\$247 million), compared with Tw\$17.52 billion a year ago but up from Tw\$4.46 billion in the 2012 first quarter, the company said.

Revenue in the period fell 27 percent to Tw\$91.0 billion year-on-year, lower than the

company's forecast of Tw\$105.0 billion although it was an increase of 34 percent from the first quarter.

HTC sells its own smartphones and also makes handsets for a number of leading US companies, including supplying Google's Nexus One.

The company has recently unveiled a new series of smartphones as it faces stiff competition with US technology giant Apple and South Korea's Samsung.

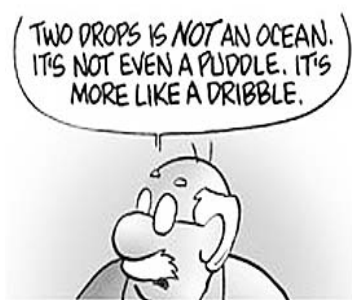
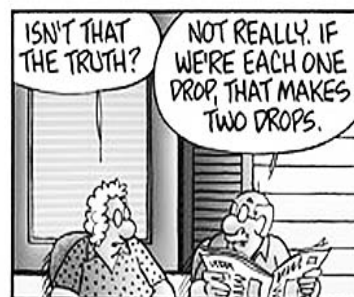
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ACROSS

1. Singer Davis
4. Zoomed
8. Like Arizona's climate
12. Ruckus
13. Grant by treaty
14. Grizzly —
15. In place
16. Elevations (abbr.)
17. Bank machines (abbr.)
18. Phone start
20. Faux —
22. Garden flower
24. King's deputy
28. Dancer Miller et al.
29. Chowd down
30. Before, poetically
31. Fireplace item
32. Legends
34. Dentist's degree (abbr.)
35. Inventor Whitney
36. Very wide shoe width
37. Kid-on-the-swing's cry
38. Actor George
40. Foamy brews
41. Lennon's widow Yoko
42. Pedro's house
43. Descended
46. Italy's shape

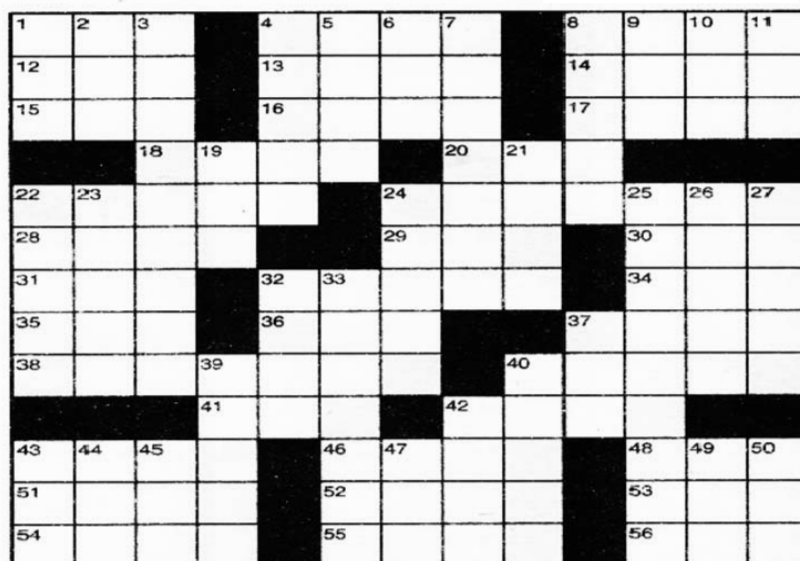
48. Narc's org.
51. Rickey ingredient
52. Not working
53. School course (abbr.)
54. Principal role
55. Third letters
56. Marginal grade

DOWN

1. Barker and Kettle
2. Summer cooler
3. 35 Across's invention (2 wds.)
4. Flaky

5. Brazilian soccer legend
6. New York time (abbr.)
7. Notwithstanding
8. Degrade
9. On a pension (abbr.)
10. "___ a Rock" (2 wds.)
11. Hosp. workers
19. O'Toole's rank (abbr.)
21. Highest cards
22. Loses color
23. "___ Gay"
24. Glens
25. Like Lucy

- Ricardo (hyph.)
26. Law and —
27. Positive responses
32. Neither kid nor adult
33. Category of exercise
37. Director Craven
39. Showed fondness
40. Moderates
42. Old King —
43. Everybody
44. Embroider the truth
45. "___ Man" (2 wds.)
47. Exalted poem
49. Opp. of WSW
50. Era



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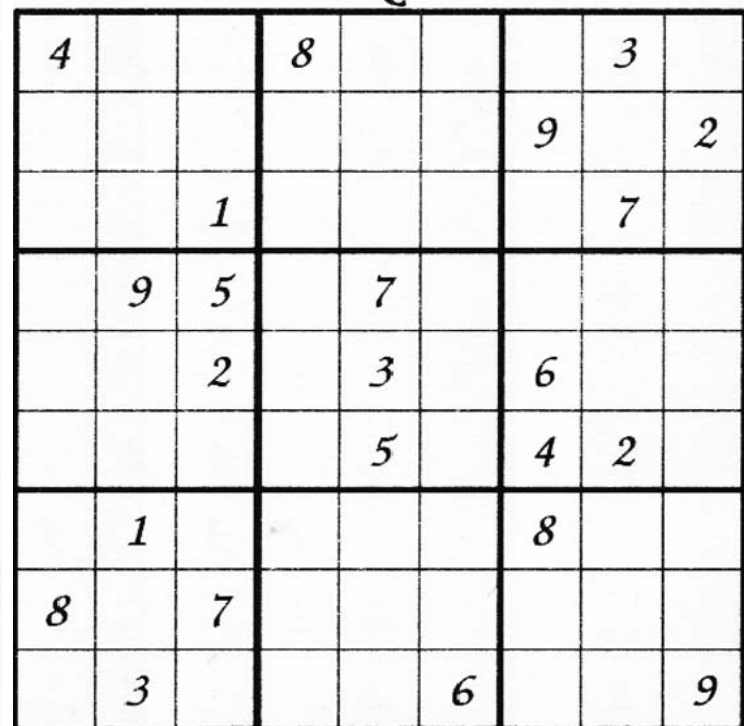
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Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel. 5274000

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POLICE HDQS
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	1	2	9	8	5	7	4	3
7	9	3	1	6	4	2	5	8
4	5	8	7	2	9	1	6	3
2	7	6	5	9	8	3	1	4
5	6	9	8	1	2	7	4	3
1	8	4	2	7	3	5	6	9
8	2	5	7	9	6	1	3	4
3	6	4	1	2	8	9	5	7
9	4	1	5	2	8	6	7	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Samsonite

Mainstreet Downtown Aruba

Finance



LAGOS : Guests alight from Arco new fast crew boat after its unveiling at the Marina in Lagos, Nigeria, on the weekend. Arco Marine, a subsidiary of Arco Petrochemical Engineering company, has unveiled the third fast crew boat to service oil companies operating in the Niger Delta oil fields. The company, which had suspended its activities in the region following restiveness of militants in the area, resumed the operations with the latest 25 meter aluminium monohull, quad-water jet personnel carriers equipped for high speed and safe manoeuvrability between offshore platforms. The existing opportunities arising from high demand of safe transport vessels by oil companies to ferry their workers to oil fields, and the suspension of hostilities by restive Niger Delta militants in the area, according to Arco CEO Alfred Okoigun, are indications of future opportunities in the sector.

AFP PHOTO



NEW DELHI : An Indian vendor sells balloons on the lawns in front of India Gate in New Delhi on July 8, 2012. India's inflation, which was nudging double digits for most of 2011, has now fallen to just under seven percent but the previous rate hikes, along with a sluggish global economy, dragged on gross domestic product growth. The economy grew just 5.3 percent in January to March, its slowest quarterly expansion in nine years. The rupee has lost more than a quarter of its value against the US dollar over the last 12 months to hit record lows.

AFP PHOTO

Italian PM says eurozone 'credibility' gap rattled markets

AIX-EN-PROVENCE (AFP) - Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti yesterday denounced unnamed "northern" EU states for taking positions that contributed to spikes in borrowing costs for Italy and Spain.

In an apparent reference to Finland and The Netherlands, which cast doubt on the conclusions of last month's EU summit hailed as a watershed for the debt crisis, Monti said they undermined the eurozone's "credibility".

"The increase in the spreads after the EU summit is also due to statements that I consider inappropriate by authorities of northern countries that had the effect of undermining the credibility of the decisions taken by the EU summit."

Finland has said it has no intention of footing the bill to cover the debts of other eurozone countries.

"Collective responsibility for other countries' debt, economics and risks; this is not what we should be prepared for," Finance Minister Jutta Urpilainen said in a newspaper interview.

For his part Dutch Central Bank president Klaas Knot, a member of the European Central Bank's governing council, took a similar line, saying: "If somebody wants to help southern Europe, then it has to be

other governments, not the ECB."

The hard-won accord in Brussels paves the way for a 500 billion euro (\$630 billion) bailout fund to recapitalize ailing banks directly, without passing through national budgets and thus adding to struggling countries' debt mountains.

Borrowing rates for 10-year bonds in Spain and Italy initially eased amid market euphoria after the EU summit

promised fresh capital for Spain's struggling banks and a European bank union to keep lenders in line.

But the rates shot up to unsustainable levels Friday, with the Spanish yield hovering around 7.0 percent.

"The wide level of the spreads ... is a concern for the financial stability of the eurozone," Monti said, adding he was "firmly committed ... to preventing Italy from getting into trouble."



Current as 07/08/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.73	1.75	1.77
Britain	GBP	2.70	2.75	2.81
Switzerland	CHF	183.33	184.05	184.85
Netherlands	EUR	218.45	220.44	222.66
Sweden	SEK	24.47	25.19	25.99
Denmark	DKK	28.65	29.37	30.17
Norway	NOK	28.35	29.07	29.87
Japan	JPY	220.94	222.96	225.20
(per 100)				

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French finance minister: Joint Eurogroup presidency unlikely

AIX-EN-PROVENCE - French Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici poured cold water on a media report yesterday that France and Germany could split between them the presidency of the Eurogroup of euro zone finance ministers.

The mandate of the Eurogroup's current chairman, Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker, expires at the end of the month but officials signaled last month that his term could be extended.

Yesterday, Germany's Der Spiegel magazine reported that German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande had agreed a compromise for a successor to Juncker as Eurogroup head involving a rotating chairmanship.

German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaueble would initially take over as Eurogroup chief to be replaced by Moscovici at the mid-point of his term, according to the report.

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

GIGI COS TEE
OVEN LOUT AVA
PENN EXTREMES
EELS DEEPLY
LARRYS OAR
ISA ECK MISTS
MILO NOS ECHO
BASIN SHH REL
LOA AROUND
ALBERT RSVP
WILDWILD ALVA
EEE AMIS LEAN
DUD YES SSTTS

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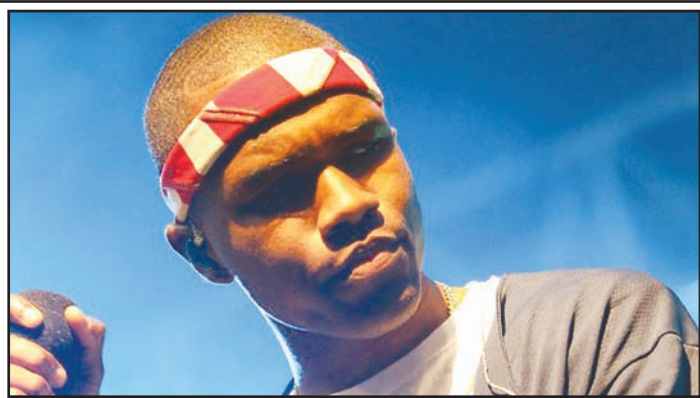
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kids under 15 \$25.00

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RESORT & CASINO ARUBA



WASHINGTON (AFP)— Suddenly, it seems, more US entertainers are coming out publicly as gay, lesbian or bisexual -- a welcome sign of a more accepting America, activists say, amid a fierce debate over marriage equality. Hip-hop artist Frank Ocean, 24, a member of the Odd Future collective, and talk-show host and CNN anchor Anderson Cooper both made headlines this week when they openly acknowledged their sexual orientations. The singer, tells in an open letter published on his Tumblr.com page how he fell for a male friend. "4 summers ago, I met somebody. I was 19. He was too," wrote Ocean in a stream-of-consciousness entry on his Tumblr blog ahead of the July 17 release of his new album "Channel Orange" and a national concert tour. "We spent that summer, and the summer after, together. Everyday almost. And on the days we were together, time would glide.... I don't have any secrets I need to keep anymore.... I feel like a free man."

Justin Bieber caught speeding 'like a maniac'

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Teen heartthrob singer Justin Bieber was pulled over and cited for speeding "like a maniac" to shake off paparazzi Friday near Los Angeles, police and a lawmaker who witnessed the incident said.

A California Highway Patrol (CHP) spokesman said officers saw two vehicles speeding on the 101 freeway northwest near Coldwater Canyon northwest of Los Angeles, where the Canadian crooner lives.

"Officers made an enforcement stop on one of the vehicles, took him off the freeway,"

CHP spokesman Vince Ramirez told AFP, adding that the driver "was identified as Justin Bieber."

"He was issued a citation for speeding," he added, saying he had no further details.

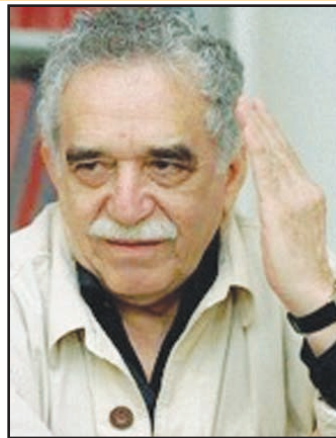
The 18-year-old was driving his eye-catching mirror chrome Fisker Karma, according to the celebrity news website TMZ.

Last August, Bieber was involved in a minor car crash in his black Ferrari, in an underground parking lot, in which a Honda Civic "tapped" his car from behind. He was not cited over that incident.

Garcia Marquez suffers from dementia: brother

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Nobel literature laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez, arguably best known for his "One Hundred Years of Solitude," is suffering from senile dementia, his brother says.

The 85-year-old author's brother Jaime told El Universal in Mexico, where Garcia Marquez lives, that he speaks to the 1982 Nobel winner nearly every day from their native Colombia, hoping to help



keep some of his memories alive.

"What he has are some memory issues; in our family, we all end up with senile dementia. I am starting to get some of the onset complications and he already is in the throes of it," said Jaime Garcia Marquez.

He said it had been a very slow downward slide for his author brother, who has had some symptoms of the condition since 1999, when he was treated for lymphatic cancer -- a condition which nearly killed him.

The author then underwent chemotherapy treatment, which sped up the pace of memory loss, his brother added.

Garcia Marquez, who is also known for "Love in the Time of Cholera" and "No One Writes to the Colonel," lives in Mexico City with his wife Mercedes.

Garcia Marquez was born on March 6, 1927 in the Colombian Caribbean town of Aracataca but has lived in Mexico for several decades.

Weakened by cancer, he did not resume writing after his latest novel, "Memories of My

Melancholy Whores," in 2004.

This year marks the 30th anniversary since Garcia Marquez received the Nobel Prize for Literature. "One Hundred Years of Solitude" has already sold 30 million copies worldwide.

"One Hundred Years of Solitude" tells the saga of a troubled family of Macondo, an imaginary village, in the 19th and 20th centuries. It has been translated into 35 languages but only now is appearing in a digital edition.

15 MINUTE ENGLISH LIFESTYLE & NEWS SHOW

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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

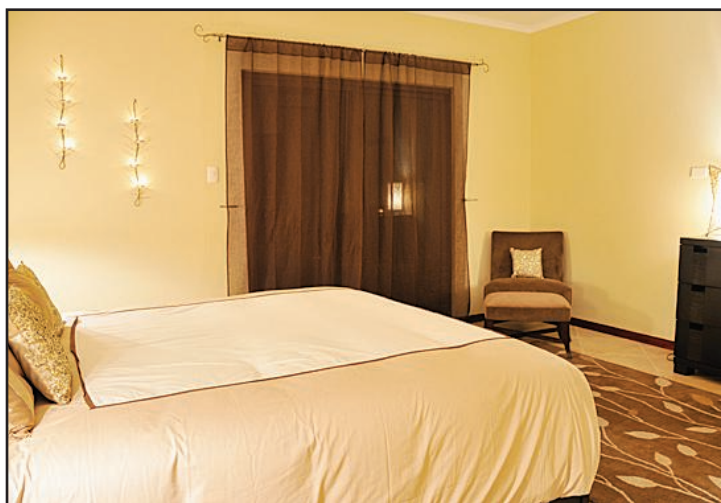
"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and

drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious,

connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge



offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet

services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Steak on a Stone-Le Petit Café's specialty



In a time when dining choices and critiques are based on value for your dollar, an old favorite, Le Petit Café, still offers one of the best values not only in price, but quality, quantity and ambiance.

Le Petit Café in Palm Beach offers charming surroundings reminiscent of a European outdoor café. Surrounded by Old World gaslights and an abundance of flora, it provides a delightful and romantic setting. In Oranjestad, diners can enjoy a breathtaking view of the harbor; particularly as the sun dips over the horizon and the lights of town set the waters aglow. Taking advantage of their Early Bird Special not only offers a great price for a delicious meal, but put you in the right place at the right time to enjoy Aruba's most spectacular daily performance; our stunning sunsets.

The Early Bird special offers a choice of a full sized chicken breast, a hefty portion of filet mignon or fresh grouper fillet accompanied by a well-stuffed baked potato, rice or french fries. There is a choice of soup or salad as a starter, and ice cream for dessert, all for a modest \$24.95; an unbeatable price for a great meal on Aruba!

Cooking your main course on the stone is a supremely healthy method of preparation, seasoned to perfection

and using no fats or oils. Fish in particular is excellent; extremely moist and tasty. A thick cut of filet mignon usually requires cutting into smaller sections to cook fully, especially if your preference is medium-well to well done.

Le Petit Café is particularly well known for its "Land and Sea" specialty, filet mignon and lobster tail; a gourmet treat when served in their signature fashion. The restaurant also offers a diverse menu of pastas and tempting gourmet appetizers such as seafood crepes, crispy calamari, and escargot. For family members in the mood for something different there are several dishes to choose from, such as chicken parmesan, so a large family with different ideas of what they want for dinner can easily be accommodated.

We all know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and Le Petit Café has also long been famous for the best value for breakfast on Aruba. They still offer a full breakfast buffet for \$9.95, another unbeatable value!

Le Petit Café is also located in the Paradise Beach Villas, so whether you are staying in Oranjestad, Palm Beach or Eagle Beach, a La Petit Café restaurant can be found only a short stroll away from you resort, a perfect way to begin or end your day!



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SPORTS

Formula One: Webber wins dramatic British Grand Prix



SILVERSTONE, U.K. (AFP) - Mark Webber claimed the ninth win of his career on Sunday when he swept to a dramatic and perfectly-judged victory in an incident-filled British Grand Prix.

In a race run in welcome, if rare, dry conditions, the 35-year-old Australian steered his Red Bull through 52 laps of complex tactical and strategic

racing to overtake pole sitter nad longtime leader Fernando Alonso of Ferrari close home.

It was Webber's second win this year, after triumphing at Monaco, and his second at Silverstone in three years.

"Great day for us and a great day for me," he said over the team radio.

Webber's Red Bull teammate and defending double world champion Sebastian Vettel came home third to ensure the champions had two men on the podium.

Webber's win was watched by a capacity Silverstone crowd of 120,000 spectators who had braved torrential rain for most of the weekend.

Alonso's second place enabled him to stay on top of the drivers' title race with 129 points ahead of Webber on 116.

Felipe Massa finished fourth in the second Ferrari ahead of his former Ferrari team-mate Kimi Raikkonen and his Lotus colleague Romain Grosjean.

Seven-time world champion Michael Schumacher of Mercedes finished seventh ahead of home favourite Lewis Hamilton who produced some spectacular racing on his way to eighth for McLaren.

Bruno Senna finished ninth for Williams and Jenson Button was 10th in the second McLaren.

Alonso made a near-perfect start in the rare dry conditions when the lights went out.

Briton Paul di Resta was the first victim of the conditions and the traffic when, on the opening lap, Grosjean collided with him.

Russian Vitaly Petrov had also been forced to retire before the start when his Renault engine failed in his Caterham.

Vettel was the first of the leading men to pit after 11 laps when he came in from fifth, re-joining 15th.

One lap later, Massa threw his Ferrari past Schumacher at Stowe in one of many close battles before the German pitted and Pastor Maldonado appeared to lose control of his car and crash into the Sauber of luckless Mexican Sergio Perez.

Both cars spun and the resultant damage left Perez forced out of the race while Maldonado, frequently involved in collisions with other drivers, steered his damaged Williams back to the pits.

The stewards announced that the incident will be investigated after the race.



Overall leader's yellow jersey, British Bradley Wiggins, arrives on the podium at the end of the 157,5 km and eighth stage of the 2012 Tour de France cycling race starting in Belfort and finishing in Porrentruy, Switzerland, on July 8, 2012.

AFP PHOTO



SAINT QUENTIN EN YVELINES, France : German golfer Marcel Siem celebrates with his trophy near the president of the French Golf federation, George Barbalet (R) and French engineering giant Alstom chief executive Patrick Kron after winning the Open de France golf tournament on July 8, 2012 at Le Golf National in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris. Siem closed with a 67 for an eight-under-par total of 276 and a one-stroke victory over Italy's Francesco Molinari who carded a day's best 64.

AFP PHOTO

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Auto racing: Hunter-Reay makes it 3 in a row in Toronto



TORONTO (AFP) - Ryan Hunter-Reay cruised to victory on Toronto's Exhibition Place street circuit on Sunday to claim his third straight IndyCar victory and move to the top of the series standings.

Hunter-Reay inherited the lead on lap 57 when JR Hildebrand pitted. In five laps on the 1.75-mile (2.8km), 11-turn course Hunter-Reay built his lead over Brazilian Tony Kanaan from .6040 of a second to 4.0794sec.

Charlie Kimball got past Kanaan on lap 72 but couldn't make any serious charge at Hunter-Reay, who led by 7.6sec with 10 laps remaining.

Hunter-Reay was able to stay well clear of a post-caution restart pile-up with three laps remaining in which Dario

Franchitti, Ryan Briscoe and Marco Andretti were caught up.

Hunter-Reay crossed the finish line under caution to claim a third straight victory after wins on oval circuits in Iowa and Milwaukee last month. Kimball notched his career-best finish with a second place and Mike Conway was third to give AJ Foyt Racing a first podium

finish since Brazil in 2010.

Kanaan finished fourth and Spain's Oriol Servia was fifth.

Hunter-Reay, who came into the race trailing first-placed Will Power in the drivers' standings by three points, leapfrogged over the Aussie to take the lead with 335 points -- 34 ahead of Power going into the next race at Edmonton.

Power finished 15th after a brush with Josef Newgarden's car on the 56th lap.

Brazilian Helio Castroneves, who finished sixth, overtook Scott Dixon for third in the standings, 46 points off the lead. Dixon was sidelined early on Sunday with an engine problem.

With five races remaining, Franchitti's bid for a fourth straight IndyCar series title was all but over after his 17th-placed finish.

Franchitti, who started from pole position, had a fueling problem on his first pit-stop and never recovered. He's 105 points off the series lead.



CHICAGO, IL: Alex Rios #51 of the Chicago White Sox scores at home plate as Jeff Mathis #6 of the Toronto Blue Jays makes a late tag in the seventh inning on July 8, 2012 at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago, Illinois.

AFP PHOTO

MLB Standings

American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
YANKEES	51	33	.607	--	WASHINGTON	49	34	.590	--
BALTIMORE	45	39	.536	6.0	ATLANTA	46	39	.541	4.0
TAMPA	45	41	.523	7.0	NY METS	46	40	.535	4.5
BOSTON	43	42	.506	8.5	MIAMI	41	43	.488	8.5
TORONTO	42	43	.494	9.5	PHILADELPHIA	37	50	.425	14.0
Central	W	L	Pct	GB	Central	W	L	Pct	GB
CHICAGO	47	37	.560	--	PITTSBURG	48	37	.565	--
CLEVELAND	44	41	.518	3.5	CINCINNATI	46	38	.548	1.5
DETROIT	44	42	.512	4.0	ST. LOUIS	45	40	.529	3.0
KANSAS	37	47	.440	10.0	MILWAUKEE	39	45	.464	8.5
MINNESOTA	36	48	.429	11.0	CHICAGO	33	52	.388	15.0
West	W	L	Pct	GB	West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	51	34	.600	--	HOUSTON	33	52	.388	15.0
LA ANGELES	47	38	.553	4.0	LA DODGERS	47	39	.547	--
OAKLAND	42	43	.494	9.0	SAN FRANCISCO	46	40	.535	1.0
SEATTLE	36	50	.419	15.5	ARIZONA	41	43	.488	5.0
					SAN DIEGO	34	52	.395	13.0
					COLORADO	33	52	.388	13.5

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King Federer....

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Federer held and retrieved the break before Murray survived two break points in the eighth game.

He broke to lead 5-4 as Federer netted a forehand having had to take evasive action to avoid a Murray forehand missile.

The Scot then wrapped up the opener -- it was the first set Murray had won in his three Grand Slam finals, with Federer's 16 unforced errors to his opponent's five proving key.

Murray saved a break point in the second game of the second set while Federer, the first 30-year-old in the final since Jimmy Connors in 1984, saved two in the fifth.

The two men served a pair of love games as Federer led 4-3 while Murray wasted two break points in the ninth game as the six-time champion clung on for a 5-4 advantage.

The Briton again served a love game for 5-5.

But Federer held and suddenly carved out a set point with a magical drop volley in the 12th game which caused

Murray to push a lob long.

Another immaculate drop volley off his toes gave him the set 7-5.

At 1-1 and 40-0 for Federer in the third, heavy rain drove the players off court for 40 minutes and the roof was closed.

In a dramatic sixth game, which lasted 20 minutes and went to 10 deuces, Murray took three tumbles to the ground, surrendered a 40-0 lead and Federer broke on a sixth break point for a 4-2 lead.

A ninth ace of the contest gave Federer the set 6-3 and a two sets to one lead.

Suddenly, the life and vibrancy seeped out of Murray.

He felt his lower back, Victoria Beckham looked even more sombre, and the Scot slipped 3-2 down off a killer, crosscourt backhand drive.

A 12th ace in the 10th game took Federer to two match points, the first of which was saved but Murray went wide on a forehand to hand Federer victory.



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King Federer back on Wimbledon throne



LONDON (AFP) - Roger Federer won a record-equalling seventh Wimbledon title and 17th Grand Slam crown Sunday, shattering tearful Andy Murray's dream of ending Britain's 76-year wait for an All England Club men's champion.

Federer, playing in his eighth Wimbledon final and 24th Grand Slam championship match, won 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4 to join Pete Sampras and William Renshaw as a seven-time champion.

The Swiss great, who has also regained the world number one ranking, is just the third man over 30 to win Wimbledon following Rod Laver in 1969 and Arthur Ashe in 1975.

Murray, 25, bidding to be the first British man since Fred Perry in 1936 to win Wimbledon, has now lost all four Grand Slam finals in which he has appeared.

"It equals me with Pete Sampras, who's my hero, so it feels amazing," said Federer, whose last Wimbledon title was in 2009 and was without a major since the 2010 Australian Open.

"It feels great being back

here as the winner. I think I played some of my best tennis in the last couple of matches. I couldn't be more happy."

Federer, who dominated the final after the Centre Court roof was shut early in the third set, admitted he had felt the sense of occasion with Murray chasing down history.

"Today was unique because of playing Andy. Obviously, being able to play or finish a match under the roof, I don't think that's ever been done before here for a final. I know the occasion and how big it was for Andy and myself."

Murray, the first British man to reach a Wimbledon final since Bunny Austin in 1938, broke down in tears at the closing ceremony, delivering his speech but faltering on numerous occasions.

"I'm getting closer," said an emotional Murray, who had to gather himself before continuing.

"I'm going to try this but it won't be easy. Firstly I'd like to congratulate Roger. I was asked the other day if this is my best chance? Roger's 30.

He's not bad for a 30-year-old."

In the opening exchanges of this eagerly-anticipated final, Murray was the stronger player, making the most of his five-year advantage as Federer looked fatigued and ragged.

However, once the £80 million roof was shut the mo-

mentum shifted and Federer stormed into the ascendancy.

With the Duchess of Cambridge, sister Pippa Middleton, Australian great Rod Laver, British Prime Minister David Cameron and even the Beckhams looking on from the Royal Box, it was the Briton who started the stronger.

Murray, defeated by Federer in the 2008 US Open and 2010 Australian Open finals without winning a set, broke in the first game when an uncharacteristic nervy Swiss ballooned a drive volley and that break was backed up by a hold.

continues on page 15

Serena win fifth Wimbledon title



LONDON (AFP) - Serena Williams has warned her rivals that her emotional fifth Wimbledon title will act as a springboard for even greater glory as she aims to make up for the worst period of her life. Just two years ago Serena should have been on top of the world after winning Wimbledon for the fourth time, but instead the American was at her lowest ebb after a series of freak health problems left her battling for her life. The trouble started when she needed 18 stitches and then surgery after stepping on broken glass in a Munich restaurant. But, showing the ferocious will-power that marked her rise to prominence, Williams gradually battled back to full health and capped a remarkable revival on Saturday with a 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 victory over Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska in the Wimbledon final. Serena's 14th Grand Slam crown underlined her credentials as the sport's pre-eminent force and, at an age when many players are entering the twilight of their career, the 30-year-old has no intention of resting on her laurels. Serena has now equalled sister Venus's tally of five Wimbledon titles and the next All England Club legend in her sights is Bille Jean King, who won the tournament six times, with the chance to catch German great Steffi Graf on seven titles another motivation. If Serena continues serving with the kind of sustained accuracy and power she showed at Wimbledon -- the world number four eventually finished with 102 aces after hitting 17 against Radwanska -- her dream of dominating women's tennis again could well come true. And if she ever has cause to doubt herself during a match, there is no question what memory will spur her on to greater heights. Photo shows Serena admiring her fifth Wimbledon singles trophy.